

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

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TO USINT HAVANA NIACT IMMEDIATE
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 066955

FAA PASS TO CHIEF, FAA ATSFO, SAN JUAN PASS SECSTATE P. RICO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, CU

SUBJECT: CUBANA CHARTER FLIGHTS TO PUERTO RICO

REF: (A) HAVANA 672; (B) STATE 66368

1. AS REPORTED IN REFTEL B, MARCH 16 AND 27 CUBANA
CHARTER FLIGHTS TO SAN JUAN ARE APPROVED. FOLLOWING IS
SUBSTANTIVE PORTION OF NOTE WHICH USINT MAY USE IF ONE
IS REQUIRED OR DESIRED BY MINREX:

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IS PLEASED TO INFORM THE MINISTRY
OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS THAT IT POSES NO OBJECTION TO
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CUBANA DE AVIACION'S DESIRE TO CONDUCT A FLIGHT TO SAN
JUAN ON MARCH 16 AND MARCH 27, 1978 PROVIDING THESE
FLIGHTS ARE OPERATED IN CONFORMANCE WITH PART 375 OF
THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD'S REGULATIONS AND PART 91
OF THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION'S REGULATIONS.

THE DEPARTMENT WISHES TO REMIND THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL

AFFAIRS THAT TO INSURE PROPER SERVICING OF THE CUBANA AIRCRAFT IN SAN JUAN, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO OBTAIN A LOCAL GROUND HANDLING AGENT PRIOR TO LANDING.

THE DEPARTMENT REQUESTS THAT THE CUBANA AIRCRAFT, WHILE WITHIN US AIRSPACE, HAVE ON BOARD THE FOREIGN AIRCRAFT PERMIT WHICH ACCOMPANYS THIS REPLY. COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE.

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF CAB FOREIGN AIRCRAFT PERMIT, WHICH BECAUSE OF LIMITED TIME PRIOR TO FLIGHT WAS PROVIDED DEPARTMENT FOR RELAY TO CUBANA: QUOTE. FOREIGN AIRCRAFT PERMIT.

THIS PERMIT MUST BE CARRIED ABOARD THE AIRCRAFT DURING FLIGHT OVER US TERRITORY.

THE STAFF OF THE SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES DIVISION OF THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD, ACTING UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY AND AT THE BEHEST OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE, GRANTS CUBANA AVIACION PERMISSION TO OPERATE ONE FLIGHT FROM HAVANA, CUBA TO SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO AND RETURN ON MARCH 16 AND ONE FLIGHT FROM HAVANA, CUBA TO SAN JUAN AND RETURN ON MARCH 27, 1978 WITH A BRISTOL BRITTANA AIRCRAFT IDENTIFICATION CUT 669 OR CUT 671 TO CARRY PASSENGERS PERSUANT TO A CONTRACT WITH THE CUBAN CONFIDENTIAL

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SPORTS FEDERATION.

CUBANA DE AVIACION'S OPERATIONS MUST CONFORM TO PART 375 OF THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD'S REGULATIONS AND TO PART 91 OF THE FEDERAL AVIATION REGULATIONS WHILE WITHIN US AIRSPACE. CUBANA SHOULD SUBMIT A COPY OF THE CHARTER CONTRACT FOR THESE FLIGHTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD'S OFFICE OF SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES AND AN OPERATIONS REPORT TO THE SAME OFFICE WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE FLIGHTS.

THIS PERMIT IS NOT AN ENDORSEMENT BY THE BOARD THAT THIS OPERATION IS A HARDSHIP WHICH QUALIFIES CUBANA FOR AN ADDITIONAL FUEL ALLOCATION UNDER THE MANDATORY AVIATION FUEL ALLOCATION PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY. SIGNED: MICHAEL L. LEVINE, DIRECTOR DESIGNATE, BUREAU OF PRICING AND DOMESTIC AVIATION.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: USINT DELIVER COPY OF PERMIT TO CUBANA. NOTE: IF CUBANA IS CURIOUS, PARTS 375 AND 91 MAY BE FOUND IN CFR 14. USINT MAY ALSO INFORM CUBANA/

MINREX OF FOLLOWING FYI.

4. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. FYI: DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN ADVISED BY FBI THAT A THREAT HAS BEEN MADE AGAINST "CUBAN PROPERTY IN PUERTO RICO." SINCE THE ONLY

"PROPERTY" DEPARTMENT IS AWARE OF IS THE CUBANA AIRCRAFT, WE ARE INTREPRETING THE THREAT IN THIS MANNER. AIRPORT SECURITY HAS BEEN INFORMED BY FAA, SAN JUAN TO INITIATE SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR THE CUBANA CHARTER FLIGHTS TO ENHANCE THE SAFETY OF THEIR AIRCRAFT AND PASSENGERS WHILE IN PUERTO RICO. WHILE THREAT IS A CONCERN TO US, WE DO NOT REGARD IT AS SEVERE ENOUGH TO SUGGEST CUBANA CANCEL THEIR FLIGHTS. CUBAN INTEREST SECTION WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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NOTIFIED OF ABOVE. END CONFIDENTIAL.

5. DEPARTMENT AND CAB PLEASED TO LEARN THAT CUBANA WILL AT LAST PROVIDE DATA REQUESTED (REFTEL A). ONCE THIS INFORMATION IS RECEIVED AND MASSAGED BY CAB, IT'S OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT CUBANA WILL BE ABLE TO CONDUCT ALL CATEGORIES OF COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS TO OR FROM THE US WITHOUT HAVING TO GO THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT. CUBAINT ALSO INFORMED DEPTOFF THAT THEY WERE JOINING US IN RECOMMENDING MINREX SEND A CUBANA DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON FOR A DAY'S DISCUSSIONS. VANCE

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